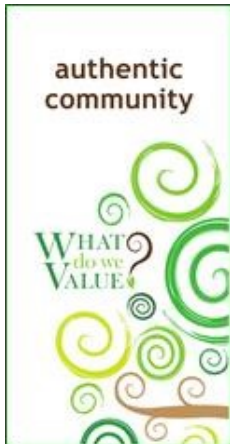


# Ministry Spotlight

Welcome to a new feature in *The Voice*! Each month we will profile two or three ministries to celebrate the great work that's being done here at St. John.

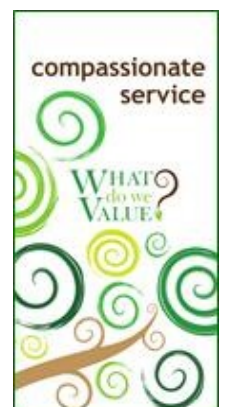
**Funeral Luncheons** have been a part of St. John's ministry for many decades. You may not be aware of this ministry unless you have participated or have attended a funeral for a loved one at St. John. In the days immediately following a death, the family has many things to do: decisions to make, people to contact, travel plans.... Providing a meal following the funeral service offers the bereaved family much more than physical sustenance, but also spiritual and emotional support. It provides a space and a time to rest, eat a good meal and catch up with old friends. Serving people in this way and at this difficult time provides both comfort and a reminder that they are not alone, but are part of the larger family of Christ.



Back in the day, meals were prepared by the Women of St. John, but this is no longer possible. They can provide salad, dessert and beverage, but the main course needs to be catered.

If you would like to participate in this ministry, contact **Marlou Grudt**, **Joanne Hagen** or **Patty Oates** and ask them to put you on the list. When the need arises they will contact you to see if you are available to help with set-up, clean-up and/or serving. Even if you are not available to help on weekdays, you can still help! This ministry involves a fair amount of expense, and contributions are always welcome. Make your check payable to "Women of St. John" with "funeral luncheons" in the memo line.

**Rebuilding Together** Russell (66) and his wife Elnora (72) and three kids and one grandchild live together in a small house in Southfield. Russell is a Vietnam veteran who served in the Navy from 72'-74'. Russell is a double amputee and is wheelchair bound. They are on a very fixed income and are doing their best to keep up. They received help from ROTC over the years but could use some additional help this year. Russell has been hard on the interior doors since his house is not designed for a wheelchair bound person. Their house needs a variety of repairs, including replacement of some interior doors, hinges and casings; repair of some drywall, cleaning of the exterior vinyl siding; cleanup and landscaping in the front yard; replace kitchen countertops and backsplash. St. John's team will help them with these tasks this year. *(continued on next page)*



## Ministry Spotlight (*continued*)

St. John has been repairing homes with Oakland County Rebuilding Together for the past ten years.



Rebuild takes in dozens of house applications and processes these for feasibility and applicant qualification. Each year's house is different in scope and presents a unique challenge. Some of the house projects have been as extensive whole kitchen demolition/replacement or refit doorways and build ramps for handicap accessibility. We have repaired walkways and porches; repaired wall damage and painted the whole interior of a house. Some projects have included ambitious plumbing or electrical work, some have had more of a focus on landscape and cleanup. This year's Rebuild date is April 30. Contact **Bill Halvangis** at [halvangis@att.net](mailto:halvangis@att.net).